# Questionable Taste Gazette



1993

"You mean we have to stay here until we reach a decision?"



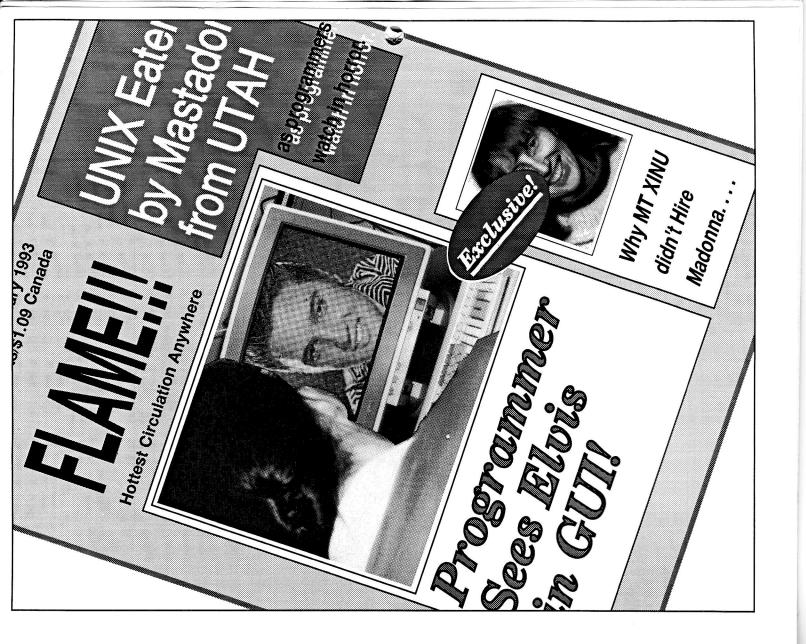
Jolta I c

How to eat a meal near a keyboard — safely!

It's a mouse AND a scrub brush!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Beginning	of time, 1970
	v			MTXINU	New Year's Day	2
					Full Moon	
3	4	5	6		8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		End of time 2038			New Moon	
17	Martin Luther King Day	19	20	21	22	Chinese New Year begins (4691, the Rooster)
24						
31	USENIX Technical Conference begins	26	27	28	29	30
			3,			

January 1993



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MTXINU	1	Groundhog Day		4	5	Full Moon
7	8	9	10	11	Lincoln's Birthday	13
St. Valentine's Day	President's Day	16		18	19	20
New Moon	Washington's Birthday	23	24	25	2.6	27
28						

## **February**

Tired of having your negative ions bouncing around, wreaking havoc in the machine room? S'motherAll offers new system administrator jumpsuits. Keep your ions where they belong with our patented "and-keep-it-in-there" system. Call now, and you'll get matching system administrator Birkenstocks! Offer void where prohibited. S'motherAll. Call 555-JUMP.

#### Silicon Squares Scandal Causes Static

**Fate in Hands of Lawyers** 

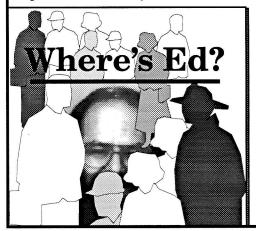
- 2 March 1993 grateful fans Critics and couldn't find enough compliments for the recent change from Hollywood to Silicon Squares. The show, which airs against PBS's Computer Chronicles, boasts celebrity guests Richard Stallman, Admiral Grace Hopper, Steven Jobs, Dennis Ritchie, Ken Thompsen, Alfred Aho, Caspar Weinberger, Brian Kernighan, and in the center square, Charro ("Feliz Navidad!"). The revised show received higher ratings than any time in the show's twenty-two year history.

Network executives were estatic, and to tell the truth, mildly surprised. That was, until the ugly truth hit the fan.

Last Friday, PBS gossip columnist Coke® E. Coberts uncovered, in a tell-all interview with Paul Rubens, that Rubens had his hand in writing and then rehearsing answers with all nine panelists. Charro stated, in characteristic fashion, "Mea culpa, from the bottom of my heart, O.K.?" The other software stars had no comment. The fate of the new venture is now in the hands of copyright and patent attorneys.

put his hands on my shoulders and suddenly a surge been to see? And I told them, Dr. Jesus."

NEW! from the author of Where's Waldo? Explore the world of system software with loved ones.



At a bookstore near you! \$116.99 | As

## Housewife Kidnapped by Aliens Kidnapped

housewife given secret of parallel processing in object-oriented environment.

"At first I was really mad. I was trying to watch the new Silicon Squares and this little guy interrupted," said Betty Yost of Fort Bragg. "He kept at it until I didn't know what I was

on," she said. "But, when he explained that I'd be able to parallel process, I didn't care whether the circle got Stallman's square or not."

Since her experience,

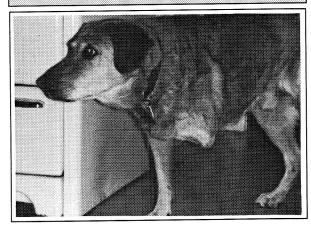
#### Software Daily

YES, I want to try SOFTWARE DAILY. With each subscribtion I will get the <u>new</u> Dennis Ritchie action figure free, along with Totally Hair Ken Thompson and <u>loads of accessories</u>, including hairbrush, styling gel, and GNU utilities. All for only \$9.95 annually. Sign me

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MTXINU	***************************************	2	3	4	5	6
	Full Moon	9	10		12	13
14	15	16	St. Patrick's	18	Sp. beg	ring
21	22	New Moon	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
Ma	rch	2	×			

and then the next thing I knew, the sheep were all gone, and now I've been hit with this lawsuit! Can you figure that?".

### Biff Predicts



Famous industry watch dog raises a leg on the future:

- Bill Gates founds ashram in India.
- VAX rises from the dead.
- VMS market share grows.
- Stallman becomes major Apple shareholder.
- MT XINU changes name to Llevon.
- Elvis fingered as next Digital president.
- Government standardizes tax collection; paper tape chosen as exchange medium.
- POSIX committee incorporates JCL feature.
- 80% of palm tops sold in 1993 lost in handbags.
- /dev/null discovered under polar icecap.

pan as a career, which isn't surprising, when you stop to figure the cost of feeding 80 penguins. Even though the venture was not successful, Ken's exposure to multiple-module memories and interleaving prom-

when Dennis was home from the office for Christmas break and Naomi was four months into her pregnancy, the young couple decided, despite their mounting guilt, to try to make a break with the past

degree in conscience in 19
Dennis acception with a massoftware come. The young fathad a close a affectionate raship with his daughter.

But as Naom Dennis begar feathers and ware busines chips everyw together for feeding and s Naomi keeps busy hitting t notes. Says N "I'm taking i day at a time

NEW! from the author of Where's Waldo? Explore the world of software tools with your kids.



Naon busy note:

As seen on TV

Signature

As 1 and a seen day 2

Why are we giving a our best Vaxen for 6 \$29.99 each?

SUNI	DAY	MOND	AY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2				MTXINU		2	3
Daylight Savings Time begins @ 2 AM	. 4		5	First day of Passover		8	9	10
Easter	1.1.		1.2	13	14	15	16	17
¥	18	USENIX Mach III "" Symposium begins	1.9	20	New Moon	2:2	23	24
	25	6	26	27	28	29	30	

**April** 

Tired of coming home from work and finding nothing in the refrigerator? Weary of trying to think of what to eat for dinner? With our new "Surprise Me!" labor-saving dinner preparation device, you simply key in a list of preferred foods, indicate what hours you are typically out of the house, and leave your housekey in an unmarked envelope under your dorrmat. When you return from a busy day, you'll find a surprise! So, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? Act now! Call us! 555-DOOF. Doof inc. is a subsidiary of Skoorc, Inc.

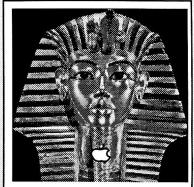




Ask Biff



- ☐ "My brother is a nerd. What can I do?" p. 3
- ☐ "My dad won't let me play with user interface guys."

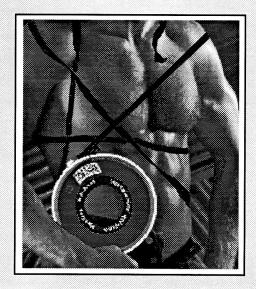


Logo discovered in ancient pyramid. Egypt sues Apple over trademark.

## **DOCTORS WARN**

MT XINU EXERCISE VIDEO MAY BE HARMFUL TO HEALTH

"Tape Drive lifts and power cycling too much," they say.



	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3						MT XINU	Biff's Birthday 1978
					Full Moon		,
		3	4	5	6	7	8
	Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14	15
						New Moon	
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24					
	30	Memorial Day observed	25	26	27	28	29



Have you ever wondered if your name suited you? Maybe you're a "Steve" but feel like a "Donald?" If the answer is yes, you are not alone. I can help you find out what your name is supposed to be — all you need is a \$1 bill!

Here's how to get started. Take your first name. Assign each letter a numerical value based on its position in the alphabet (a=1, b=2, etc.). Now, take the \$1 bill, and add up the digits in the serial number. Multiply that by 7. Now, make out a check to Madame Xinu for that amount, and BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR ACTUAL NAME. Mail it to me, and within 4–6 weeks, you'll receive your personalized Name Analysis.

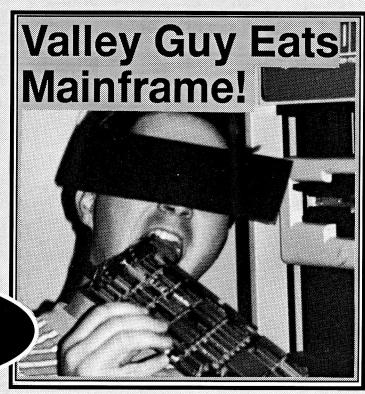


June 1993/\$1.25 U.S./\$1.95 Canada

 $Dear \\ Biff \\ p. 3$ 

How New NT User became Impotent.

"I only tried it for a few minutes," he claims. Scientists discover Michelangelo virus sexually transmitted!



Computer scientists reveal how piercing relieves bus constipation.

SUN	DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		MTXINU				Full Moon  Queen's Birthday	
			<u></u>		<b>(</b>	celebrated	
	G	7	8		10		12
	~4 C\						
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
New Moon  Father's  Day	20	Summer begins  USENIX Technical Conference begins	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30			

June

Announcing the new, improved AmaZoMatic! It slices, dices chops, grinds, bumps, compiles, snorts, chortles, spits, debugs! Try it on onions, carrots, "hello world"! Try it today. Moneyback guarantee. 555-AMAZ.





I used DOS,

Sagittarius: stay away from spinning magnetic objects!

Aries: Wild limes ahead

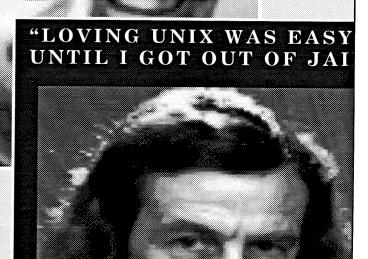
Leo: hostile takeover looms!

but I didn't want my family to know.

Woman gives birth to computer child. Blames hacker.



"I changed my diaper pail for a bit bucket."



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			MTXINU		2	Full Moon
U.S. Independence	5	6		8	9	10
	12	10	14	15	16	1.7
18	New Moon  MT XINU incorporated 10 years ago	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July

Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offering for a limited time only . . . Seven Dwarfs Analysis.

Are you a Grumpy? a Dopey? a Sneezy? Finding out might change your dull, ordinary, despicable, downright unpleasant little life into a fairy tale.

What's going on inside ...

Celebrity Corner Recipes

Exclusive )

ELECTIVE August 1993 99 cents

omputer

Bill Joy

shares his recipe for a summer drink with the look & feel of Coke.®

Please Don't Take MY LOVECHILDIII



— a mother's passionate plea

programmers use Sparc 10s

preparation

for food

Across the

country

10 easy meals: from boiling eggs with awk to preparing a 5-course meal with Ingres. . . .

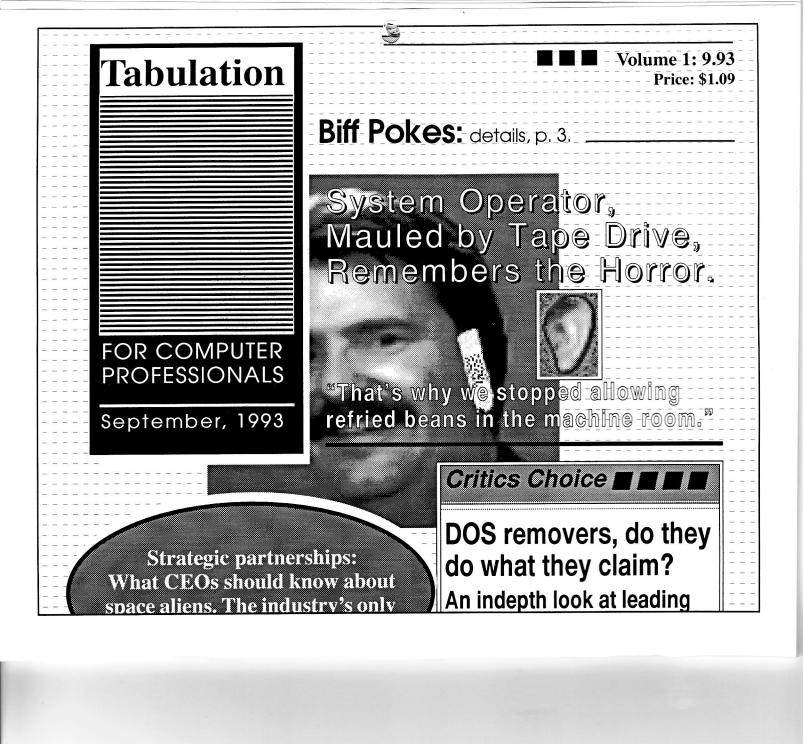
Biff's Corner

Our canine expert digs up dirt about Solaris 3.9, IBM, and foreign trade.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	THEODAY				
		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDA
1	Full Moon  USENIX Mobile & Location of Independent Computing Symposium begins	3	4.	5	6	7
8	9	10		12	13	14
	1	New Moon		Sy Ac	estem Aministrators' Day	elllan ellin
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	9.7	00
29	30	31			- **** *	MIXINU



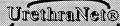
Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offereing for a limited time only — Seven Deadly Sins Analysis. Which is your favorite sin? Lust? Gluttony? Avarice? What does it mean that you can't remember the other 4 sins? Call me 2555-SLOTH for your first free appointment.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			,			
				2	3	<u></u>
5	Labor Day	7	8	9	10	
			* .	New Moon		4
12	13	14	. 15	Rosh Hashanah (5754)	17	18
	USENIX 2nd Symposium on					
19	Microkernels & Other Kernels begins	21	Autumn begins	USENIX SEDMS IV begins	24	Yom Kippur
		6		Full Moon		
26	27	28	29	30		MIXINU

# September

Do you know the magic significance of the number 7? Have you ever wondered if there's some key that could unlock your ability to attain happiness? I am offering for a limited time only — Analysis for \$77 an hour. Madame Xinu. 555-7777.



## Improve productivity Increase throughput

UrethraNet silently encircles your workplace, providing under-the-desk comfort stations for every client. Easy installation and maintenance.

30 day moneyback guarantee.

To order, call 510/644-0146. Be sure to ask about our other fine operating systems today.





"I'm not only the founder, I'm also a UrethraNet client!" — Jon Hale

#### Never walk that long lonesome hallway again!

"Now that we have UrethraNet, I love my work! I never leave my workstation, from the time I arrive until our Thursday staff meeting. It's true! Now, my heart really belongs to data!"

— Haley Jonson, client

Only \$29.99 per node!

Seven AmaZing
Uses for Mag Tape

actually. We were all pretty suprised about it, but you can tell from her quacking that she enjoys the work, and she does a good job, so we're just hoping that the university doesn't come down on us about the citizenship requirement."

hold a grudge. In of it as tit for tat As far as hair ca can't find better Scheduling, prosshape analysis. A by it.

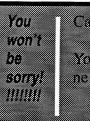
# **Space Aliens from buy MT XINU**

**Industry Analysts Shocked by Sudd** 

In a sudden hostile take-over, which surprised company founders, the Calendar Products division of MT XINU was acquired by Space Aliens, Inc. In a rapid re-organization, the OS development division was gutted, with 100% of the engineers jumping to the

CP division. Pr announced that software produ for the birds! T name to *Drib*. Fault-tolerant s hummingbirds.

For a short time, you can get that new party game everyone's been talking about ABSOLUTELY FREE. That's right, it's **Pin the Leg on Biff!** 



Many companies simply discard what might be a valuable

tightly bundled for a yule-time merkin or goatee, for example.

Biff Cooks

SUNDA	Y	MON	DAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDA
						MTXINU	1.	2
	3	USENIX UNIX Securit Symposium begins	, <u>4</u>	5	6		8	9
***	LO	National Coming Out Day		12	13	14	New Moon	16
***	.7		18	19		21	22	2.2
	4							Full Moon Standard time
lloween 📞		,		740		2.8	2.9	returns at 2 AM on the 31st

October



SWM, VI, DBX, S/M seeks pipe into GREP with SQL DB.

SBP w/CTRL issues sks. window mgr. SHFT & META A+

MAC WEENIE DESPERATELY NEEDS BOOTING. NO SMOK-ERS, PLS.

FUN(YOU) {DOUBLE ME;
RETURN ME/YOU;}

I'm tired of the BBSs and am ready to go network wide. PC compatible, loves long sessions at the terminal, pouring over hex dumps and clean windows. Seeks same. 510 644-0146.

#### **Bidirectional?**

Bisynchronous modem seeks connection with same. Speed and parity unimportant. Dial me up sometime! 300-600-1200.

#### **Controllers Wanted**

Dominate me with your disks and floppies. Come on Kernel, tell me what to do!

<u>Daughters of Remote Program-</u> <u>mers Support Group</u> phone 510 644-0146. Ask about our development participation plan.

Rhumba lessons. 510 644-0146. Don't forget to ask for AutoSupport.

Attractive, healthy, TCP-guy looking for special cable to lay. My place or yours? Send photo to Xinu Box 145.

Dysfunctional VAXen need not reply. Are you sleek, modern, and quick to compute? Do you have enough expansion slots to support numerous peripherals? Then, you're the hardware for me! email vax@-NOT.com.

Looking for Love. Not just another clone! It's hard to find someone compatible these days. Get in touch! Let's see if we can communicate! 510 644-0146.



SUNDA	Y	MON	DAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MTXI	NII	USENIX LISA VII begins	<b>1</b>	9		4		A
77117	110	begins		And	","	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		New Moon
	7		8	9		Veteran's Day	12	1.3
Sadie Hawkins Day	4.		15	16	1.7	18	19	20
								~~ <i>***</i>
					24	Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)	<i>1</i> 0	
		Full Moon						
	18	ž.	29	30				

## November

We hear a lot of questions about what's fair. Daisy was quite resentful about the lay-off policy, but I don't know what she expected us to do. When push comes to shove, a poodle is a poodle!"

#### On a Rampage, continued from page 2.

A coworker noted: "He was always a really quiet fellow, but pleasant. And he was more than just a technical writer. He was always composing poetry for our documentation. A lot of it was that weird techno-deconstructionist stuff, but hey, I can appreciate that modern stuff! Anyway, it turns out that all this time, he's been keeping a weasel under his desk .... We always did wonder about all those sandwiches he brought for lunch— three sandwiches a day!"

"So, he gets back from vacation, and finds his weasel dead as a doorknob, and he thinks the electric field from all the equipment we keep up in his office has killed off his weasel. He went totally nuts, spouting his poetry, and waving a piece of broken chair around. (We'd gotten in the habit of storing broken equipment in his office ... chairs and machines, old tape drives and the like ... I guess we just figured he didn't really mind, and then it just got to be a habit)...

# hair really belongs to data!" — Haley Jonson, client Only \$29.99 per nose!

#### Raiston Purina Buys USL

Provo — 2 December 1993

In the latest in a surprising series of takeovers, Ralston Purina quietly purchased controlling interest in UN\*X Systems Laboratories. CEO of Ralston, Chuck Steak, boasted, "We're branching out to new markets."

The new system, which will change names from UN\*X to "Diskchow®," is scheduled to be released in Feburary

— continued, p. 7

Try your hand at writing .....



standa oleo n final d ever d able w I ere I fit.

contin

stated

mayo

She at could specia bed ju each n

Finally hospit urgent but co pay the even to insurate for year.

Many sent d



What to do with those write rings. It's easy to make treats for neighbors

Holiday dazzle with 9-track tapes! Twelve ideas! Why not surprise rel-

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		MTXINU	World Aids	2	3	4
5	6	17	8	First day of Chanukah	10	
1.2	New Moon	14	. 15	16	17	18
19	20	Winter begins	22	23	24	Christmas Day
26	27	Full Moon	3 29	30	31	

# December

# This year, folks, your on your own.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						MTXINU	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
-	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
-	16	USENIX Technical Conference begins	1.8	19	20	21	22
-	23	24					
	30	31	25	26	27	28	29

January 1994

Credits, Acknowledgements, Legal HooHaa and an Apology:

This 1993 Calendar was conceived and produced by the sick minds of the employees, hangers-on and street people in and around

MT XINU 2560 Ninth Street, Suite 312 Berkeley, CA 94710

solely for the embarrassment of nerds everywhere.

Designed and produced by Grand Sick-O Jazzbo Marks.

October center-fold photo provided by Lisa Hale.

Any references made in this publication that actually resemble real people, real companies, real products, real tabloids or reality is sheer luck.

#### We're Sorry!

We at MT XINU are distressed to have to inform our customers that the highly successful and popular nerd repellant, **Geek-Away**, is no longer available in the United States. Our lawyers tell us we also cannot comment on the slimy lawsuit brought by a small, vicious pack of so-called "scientists" from an unnamed Technological Educational Institution in the northeast.

Watch this space for our next product, Lawyer-Off, coming soon to an underground merchant near you!

Trademarks: Mach386 is a trademark of MT XINU, Inc; UNIX is a registered trademark of whoever owns UNIX Systems Laboratories this week; Spare is a trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc.; Uh-Huh! is a trademark of the PepsiCola Company; Totally Hair Ken is a trademark of Mattel, Inc.; Coke is a registered trademark of The Coca Cola Company; any other tradenames used in this publication are trademarks of their respective companies; so there.